ing, 89.8 per cent of rural population of the country is expected to be covered by terrestrial transmission.

(c) A sum of Rs. 256.00 crores has been approved for Doordarshan in the Annoal Plan 1994-95. During the current financial year, a High Power (1 KW) Transmitters at Cuttack and 9 Low Power Transmitters have been commissioned till date. The remaining projects targetted for commissioning during 1994-95 are at various stages of implementation.

Under Utilisation of Funds by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

7594 SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Communications has rapped tne Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for under-utilisation of funds allocated to it for the first two years of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the said Committee has also pointed out that though the Plan outlay for Doordarshan is Rs. 2,300 crores, only Rs. 176.25 crores have been utilised as against an outlay of Rs. 265 crores in 1992-93;

(c) what are the factors that have been responsible for this low utilisation of funds;

(d) whether the Committee has also recommended that Doordarshan should dicourage telecasting of programmes which are not in consonance with the ethos and values of the Indian society; and

(e) if so, to what extent the Ministry plans to implement all the recommendations in 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) The Standing Committee on Communication in its seventh report pertaining to the demands for grants (1994-95) of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has expressed concern about underutilisation of plan funds by various media units under the Ministry during the first two years of the eighth plan.

(b) The committee has observed that the eighth plan outlay for Doordarshan is Rs. 2300.00 crores and in 1992-93, as against a budget provision of Rs. 265.16 crores only Rs. 176.25 crores had been utilised.

(r) The major reasons for shortfall in expenditure as noted by the committee are slow progress of civil works, delay in supply of equipments, non-sanctioning of staff|schemes by the competent authority etc.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The recommendations of the committee have been brought to the notice of the concerned authorities for implementing the recommendations pertaining to them and to take remedial action in respect of deficiencies pointed out by the Standing Committee on Communication with a view to ensure utilisation of the plan funds in a purposeful and optimal manner.

Illegal Entry of Foreign Newspapers

7595. SHRI KRISHAN KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some foreign newspapers published abroad are entering India, without any permission from Government;

(b) if so, whether such a step is violating the statutory laws; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take against such foreign newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH